BELLSOUTH

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February 9, 1999

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FEB - 9 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte in CC Docket Nos. 98-121 and 96-98

Dear Ms. Salas:

This is to inform you that representatives of BellSouth Corporation and Sprint Corporation met yesterday with Chairman William Kennard and his Chief of Staff, Kathy Brown. Duane Ackerman, Sid Boren, Bill Stacy and I represented BellSouth. Kevin Brauer, Robert Thompson and Rich Morris represented Sprint.

The purpose of the meeting was to review a side-by-side presentation of BellSouth's OSS system with BellSouth's internal systems used to market BellSouth services to residential and small business customers to show BellSouth's compliance with Section 271(c)(2)(B)(ii). During the meeting both BellSouth and Sprint also discussed the merits of establishing a clearinghouse, as described in the attached Sprint presentation.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(a)(1) of the Commission's rules, we are filing two copies of this notice and Sprint's written ex parte presentation for each docket. Please associate this notification with the record of CC Docket Nos. 98-121 and 96-98.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Blau

Attachment

cc: Chairman William Kennard
Kathy Brown

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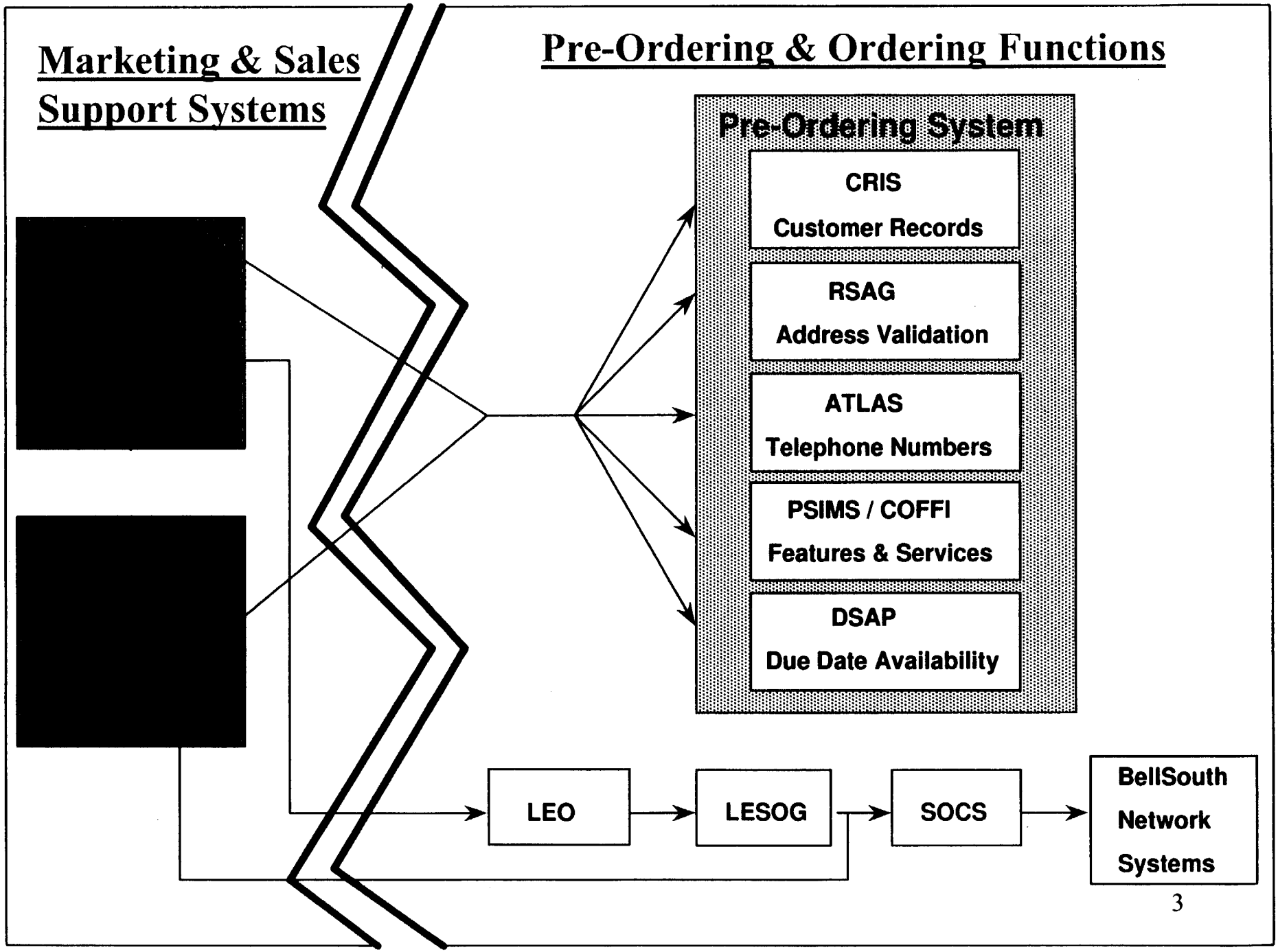
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

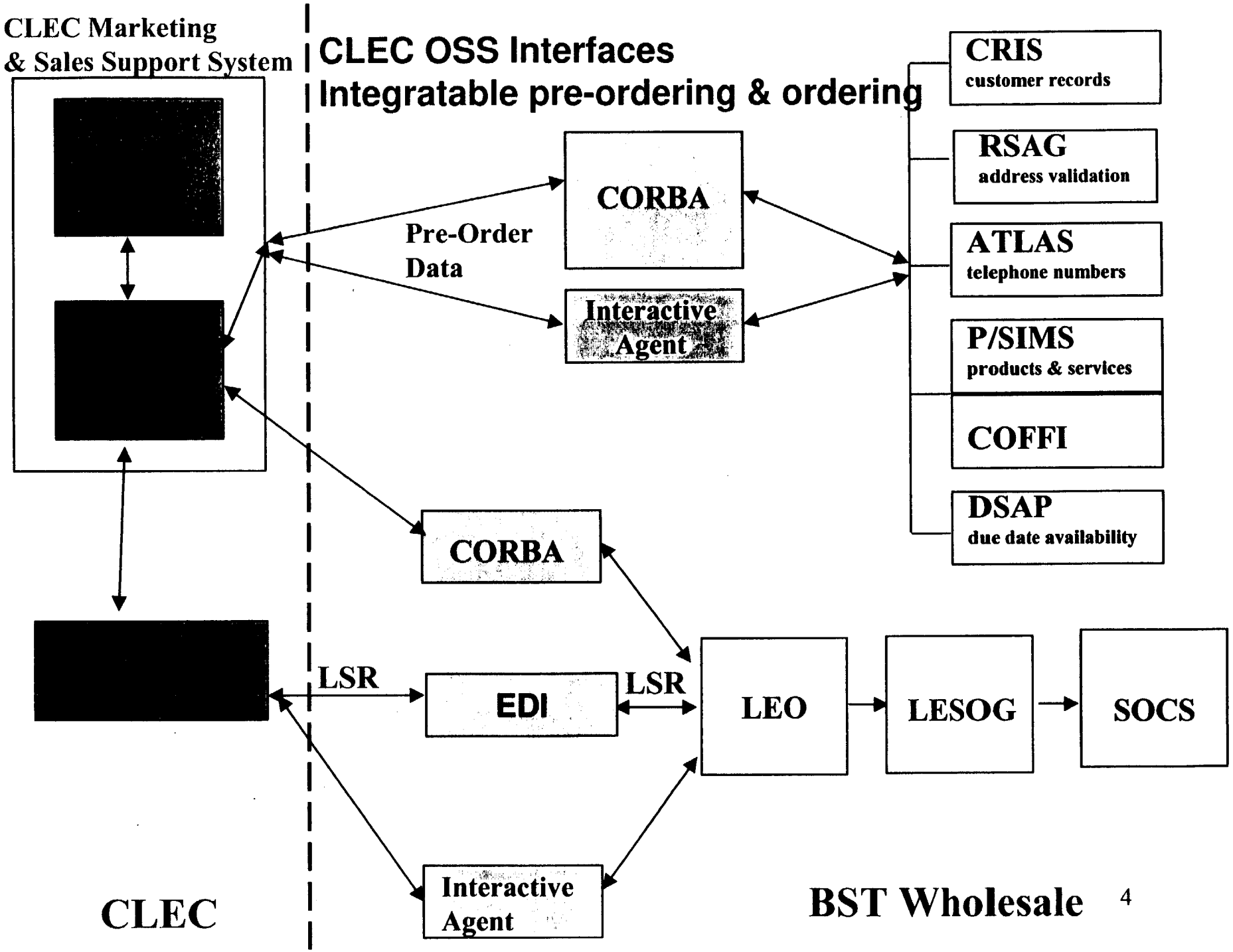
BellSouth Telecommunications
OSS Demonstration
FCC
February 8, 1999

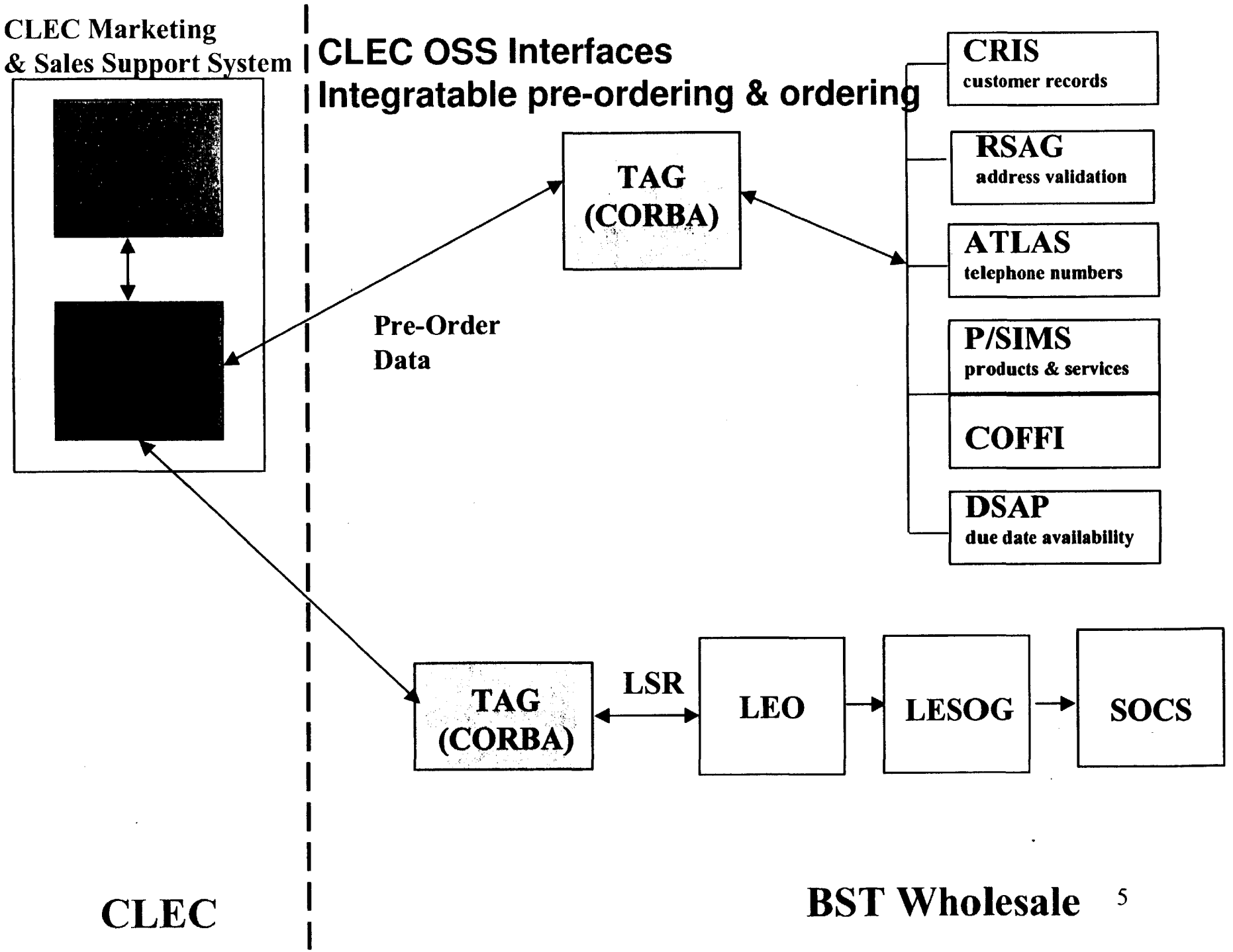
Operating Support Systems "OSS"

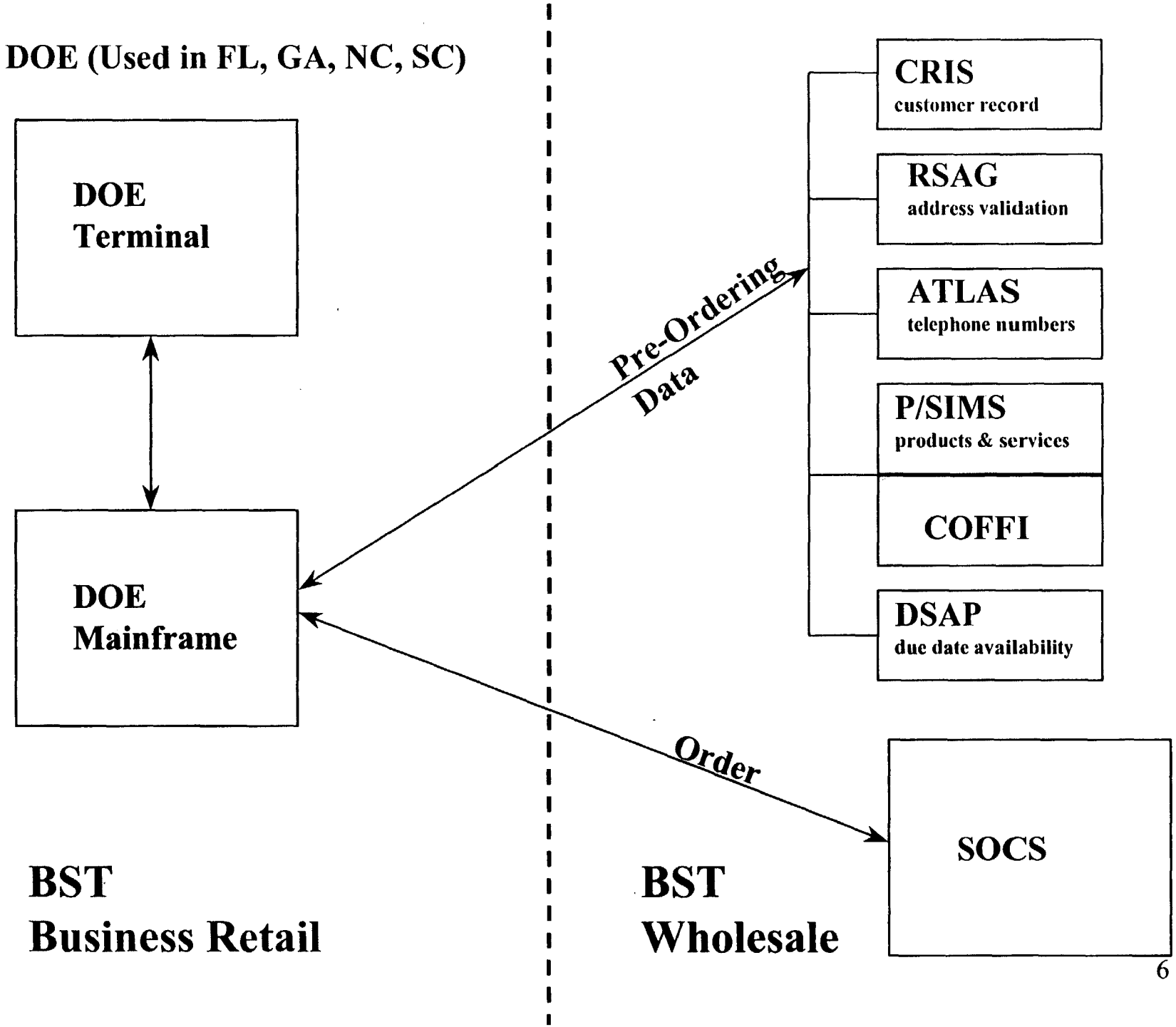
- What are they?
  - Computer support systems and the information contained in these systems used for certain functions in BellSouth's telecommunication's business.

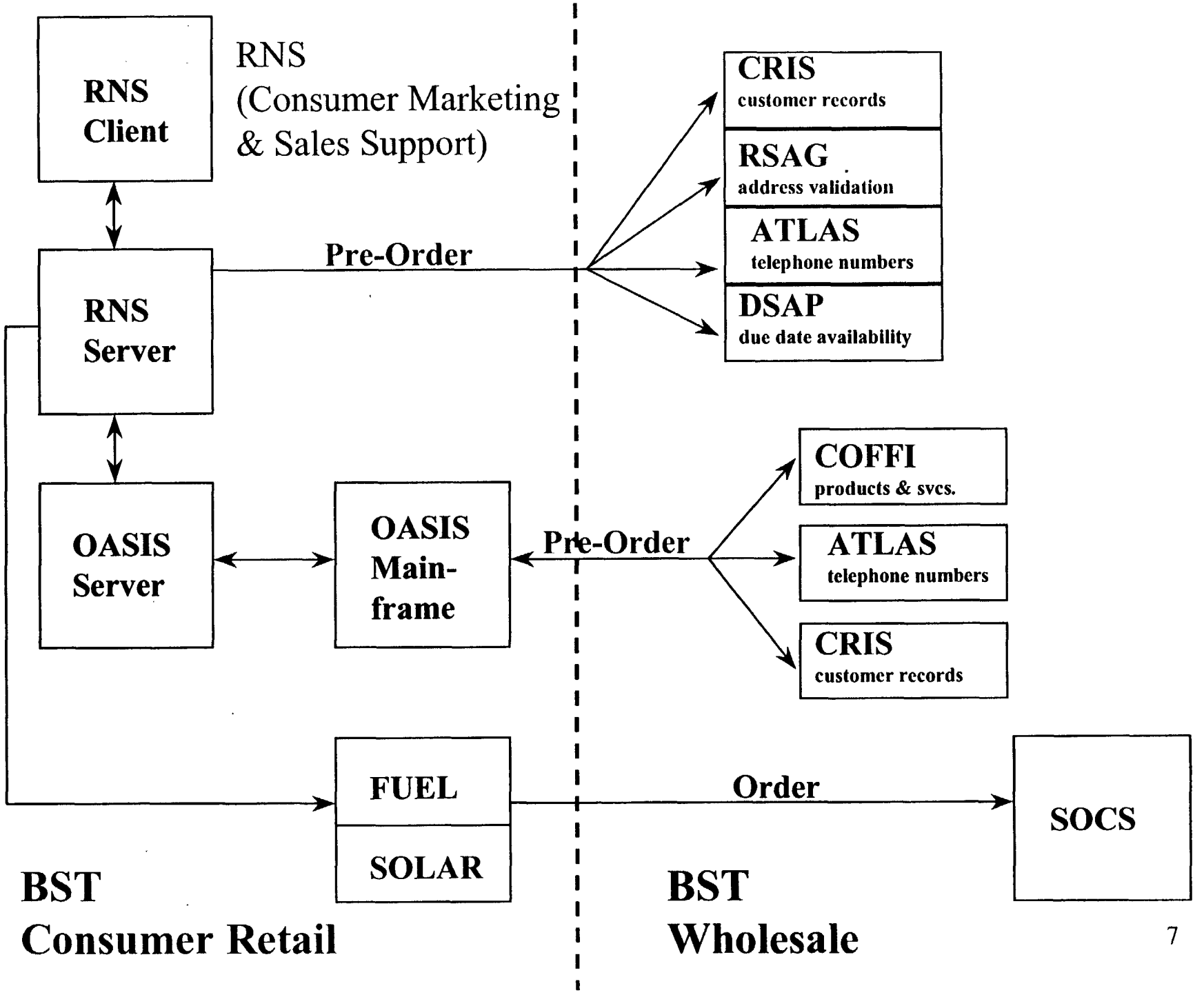
- What do the Telecommunications Act and the FCC's orders require?
  - Integratable access to support system functions for:
    - pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing for network elements and resale services
  - Access to the information these systems contain

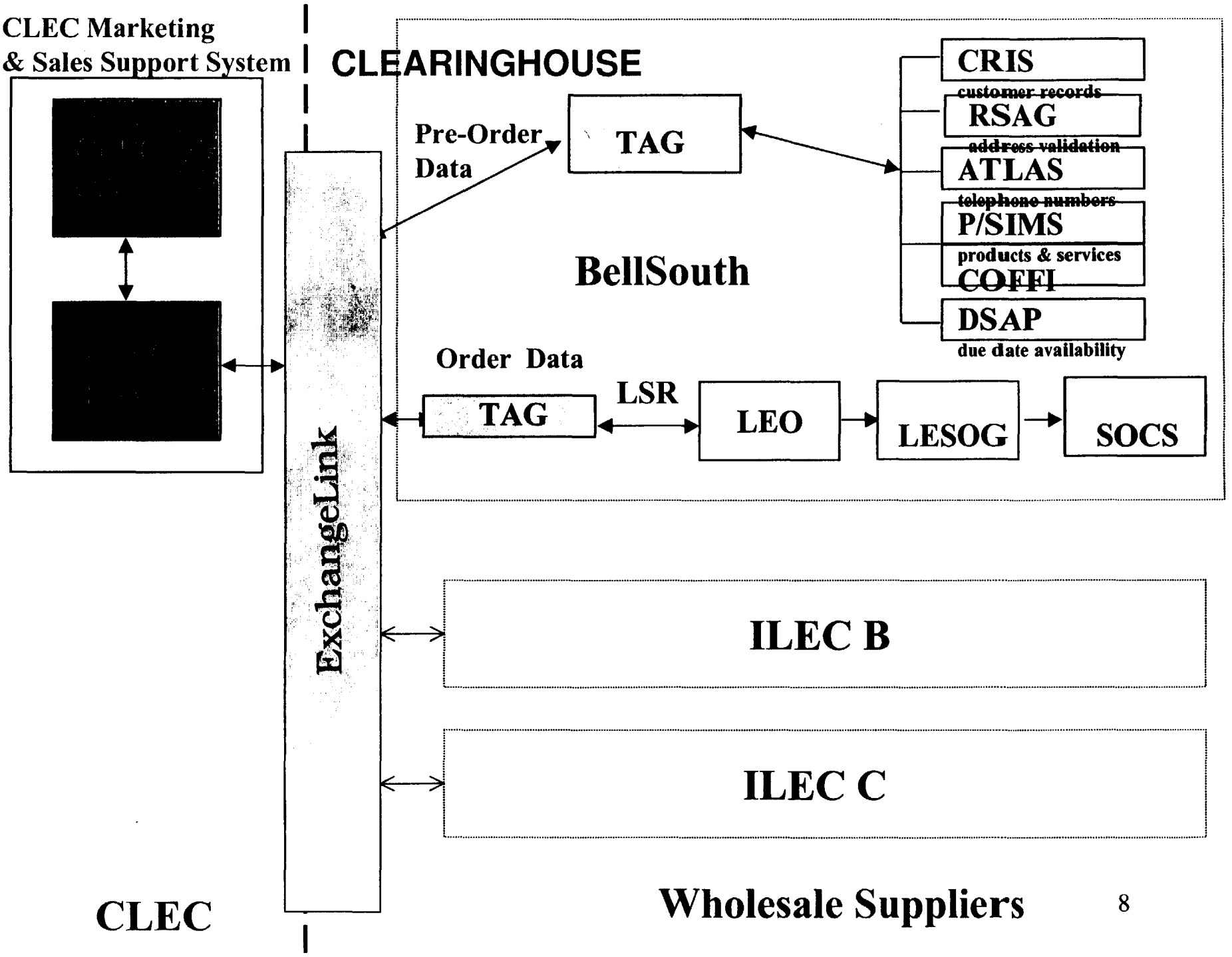

Marketing & Sales Support Systems
Pre-Ordering & Ordering Functions
Pre-Ordering System
CRIS
Customer Records
RSAG
Address Validation
ATLAS
Telephone Numbers
PSIMS / COFFI
Features & Services
DSAP
Due Date Availability
LEO
LESOG
SOCS
BellSouth
Network
Systems


CLEC Marketing
& Sales Support System
CLEC OSS Interfaces
Integratable pre-ordering & ordering
CRIS
customer records
RSAG
address validation
ATLAS
telephone numbers
P/SIMS
products & services
COFFI
DSAP
due date availability
CORBA
Pre-Order
Data
Interactive
Agent
CORBA
LSR
EDI
LSR
LEO
LESOG
SOCS
Interactive
Agent
CLEC
BST Wholesale


CLEC Marketing
& Sales Support System
CLEC OSS Interfaces
Integratable pre-ordering & ordering
CRIS
customer records
RSAG
address validation
ATLAS
telephone numbers
P/SIMS
products & services
COFFI
DSAP
due date availability
TAG
(CORBA)
Pre-Order
Data
TAG
(CORBA)
LSR
LEO
LESOG
SOCS
CLEC
BST Wholesale


DOE (Used in FL, GA, NC, SC)
DOE Terminal
DOE Mainframe
Pre-Ordering Data
Order
CRIS
customer record
RSAG
address validation
ATLAS
telephone numbers
P/SIMS
products & services
COFFI
DSAP
due date availability
SOCS
BST
Business Retail
BST
Wholesale


RNS Client
RNS (Consumer Marketing & Sales Support)
CRIS
customer records
RSAG
address validation
ATLAS
telephone numbers
DSAP
due date availability
Pre-Order
RNS Server
COFFI
products & svcs.
OASIS Server
OASIS Main-frame
Pre-Order
ATLAS
telephone numbers
CRIS
customer records
FUEL
SOLAR
Order
SOCS
BST Consumer Retail
BST Wholesale


CLEC Marketing
& Sales Support System
CLEARINGHOUSE
Pre-Order
Data
TAG
CRIS
customer records
RSAG
address validation
ATLAS
telephone numbers
P/SIMS
products & services
COFFI
DSAP
due date availability
BellSouth
Order Data
TAG
LSR
LEO
LESOG
SOCS
ExchangeLink
ILEC B
ILEC C
CLEC
Wholesale Suppliers

The Case for a Telecom Industry OSS Clearinghouse - A Sprint Perspective

Kevin E. Brauer - President National Integrated Service

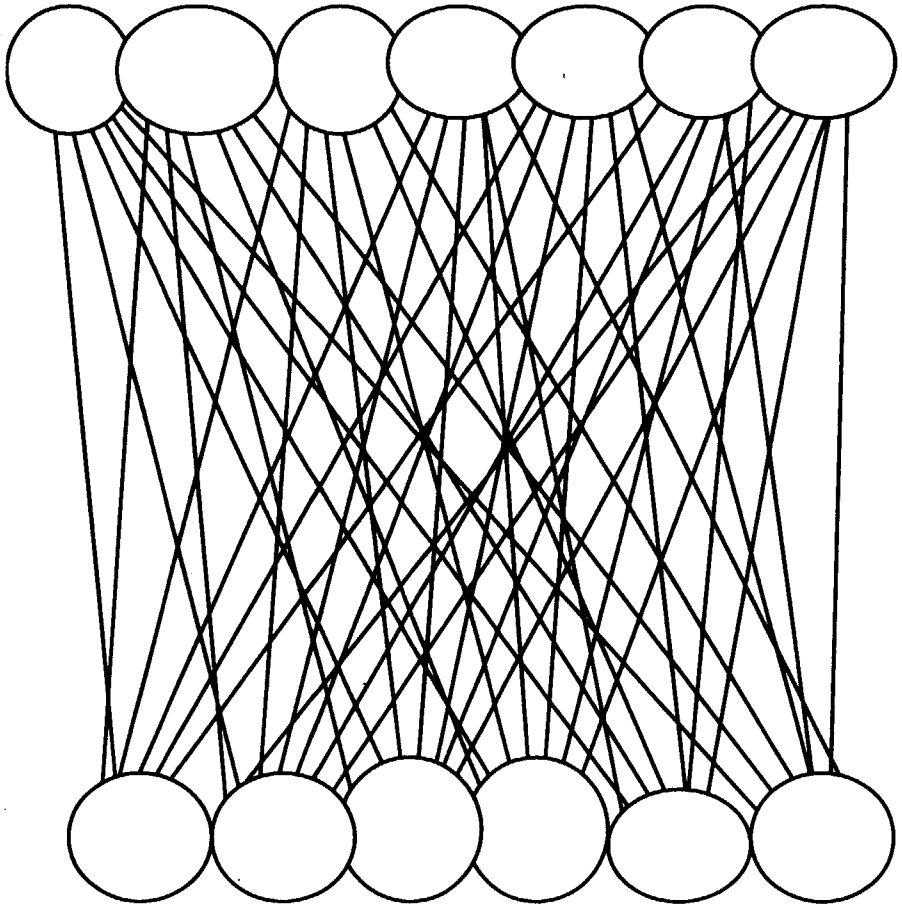
The Industry needs a long term solution to foster competition

The Costs to build and maintain OSS is excessive for both CLECs and ILECs

- Both must maintain relationships, support and coordinate software enhancements with multiple Trading Partners
- Both are forced to support multiple electronic versions and manual interfaces for Trading Partners of various sophistication levels

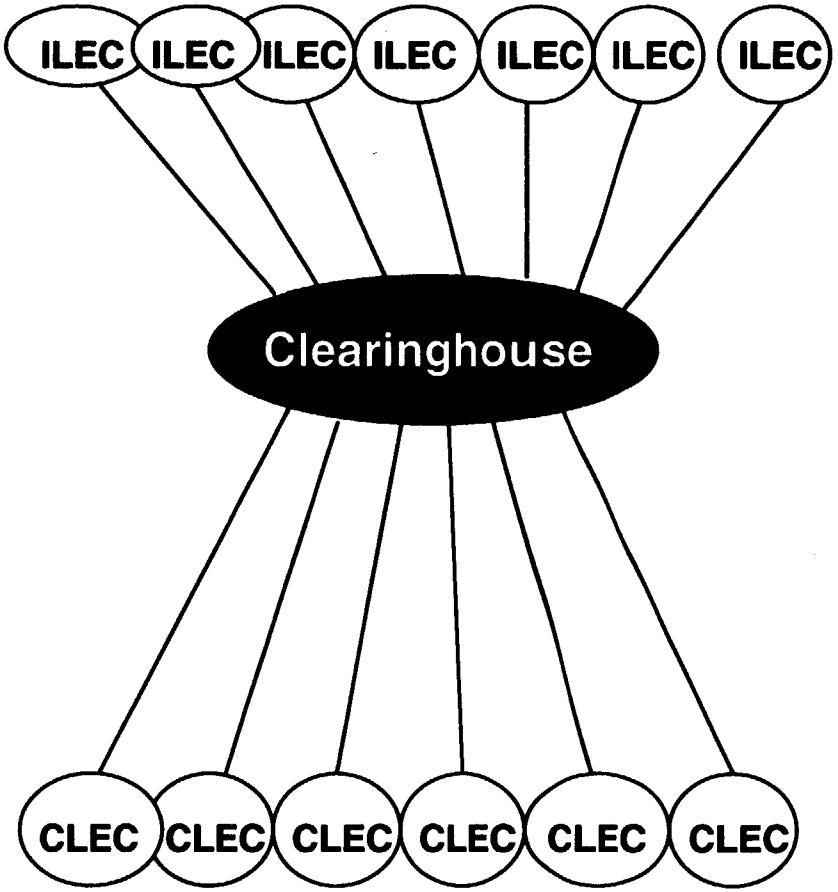
What we HAVE

Current Environment



What we NEED

Clearinghouse



Benefits to the Industry

- Providing a single approach for accessing all trading partners
- Convergence of new products and services to the consumer using a bundling retailer and multiple wholesalers (PCS, Local, Long Distance, etc)
- Reduce Costs to all consumers and Telecom companies
- Allow regulatory control of slamming and other detrimental actions towards consumers
- Foster a cooperative workable baseline for clean and valid data for Directory Information, 911 and LNP (Local Number Portability)

How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Develop Real National Standards and Implement:
  - Order Type Rules (New, Change, Move etc.)
  - Usage Rules (Required, Optional, Conditional etc.)
  - Data Characteristics (Valid Values, Attributes etc.)
  - EDI (Transactions, Acknowledgements, etc.)
  - Tariff Rules (State, Switch, Products etc.)
  - Products/Services (USOC, FIDS, Compatibility etc.)
  - Exception Processes (Manual)
  - Editing Rules (Order Reject Codes)
  - Operational Rules (Processes)

How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Engage Neutral 3rd Party(s) that certifies regional approval to a national standard
- Any regional approval must be validated against actual OSS to OSS testing
- Testing must be completed with pre approved national standards
- LNP - supports a national telephone number assignment process

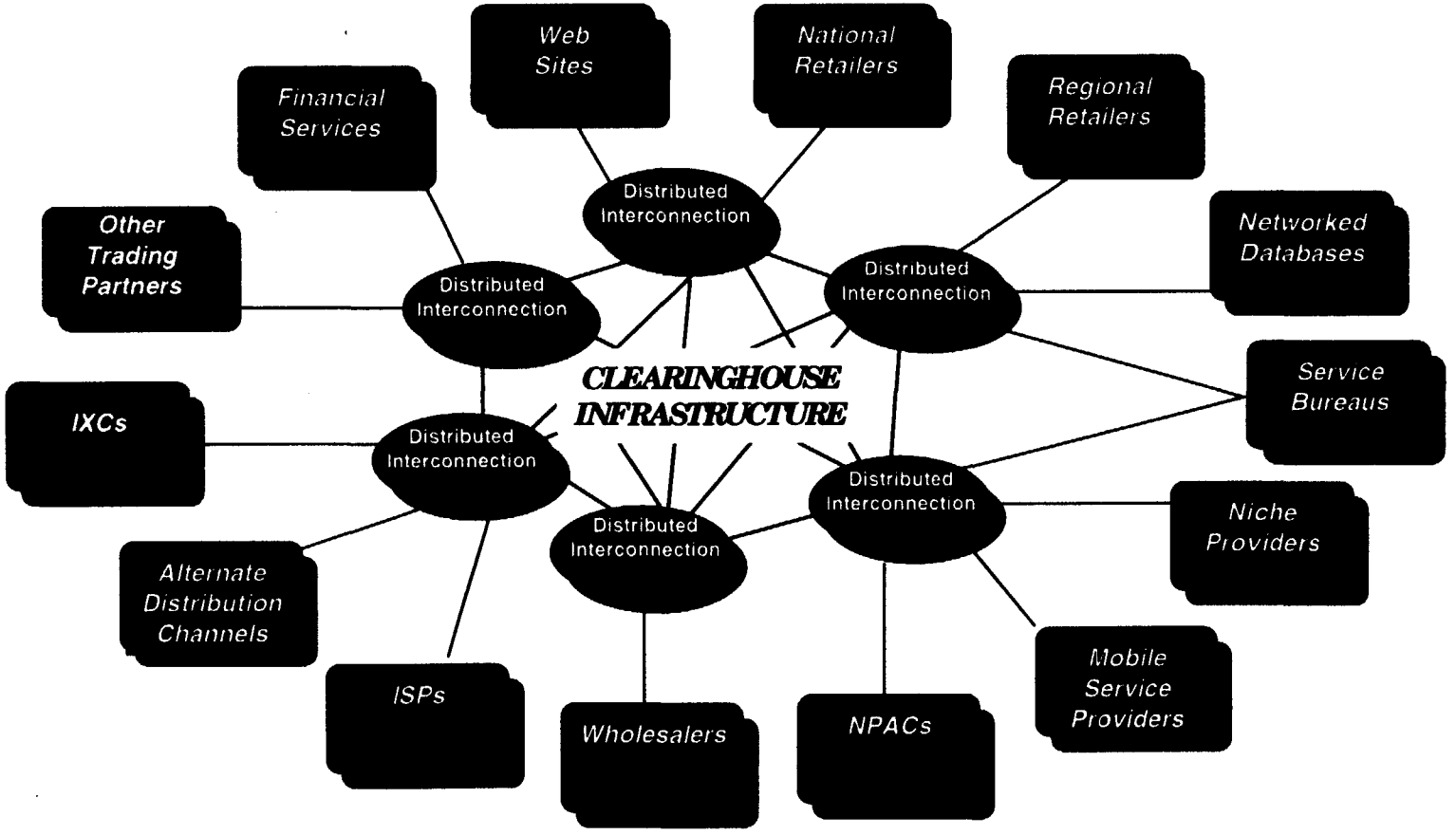
How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Clearinghouse must include the following functions (continued):
  - ⇒Pre – Order (including a strict standard for PARSED customer service record / information)
  - ⇒Order – utilizing all Order types (simple and complex) and include all products / services
  - ⇒Total reciprocal arrangements for CLEC to CLEC or CLEC back to ILEC for exchange of any of the above information

How do we Solve the National OSS Problems

- Clearinghouse must include the following functions:
  - ⇒Network Provisioning (consistent unbundled elements and loops)
  - ⇒Trouble Administration
  - ⇒PIC Care Processing to support dialing parity
  - ⇒911, Directory Listing and LIDB

The Clearinghouse Concept - *Solving The "Many to Many" Problem with a platform for future service opportunities*



Additional Comments

- An aggressive assumption for development of a clearinghouse supporting these stipulations would require 18- 24 months
- Not all Regional ILECs could meet this window as legacy systems require more complex modifications to obtain national standard
- Tier 2 and 3 ILECs could leverage Regional ILECs to further promote national standards

The Industry has used Clearinghouses to Solve Similar Problems Before

- CMDS (centralized message data system)
- STARS (CMDS II)
- 800 Portability
- LNP (Local Number Portability)
- LIDB (Line Identification Data Base)

Highly Restricted Information